

Message Text

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SUBJ: SECOND ECLA POPULATION MEETING

SUMMARY: USDEL STATEMENT TO ECLA CONSULTATION, DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR JOVA, MARCH 4, WELL RECEIVED BY CONFERENCE. PRESS TODAY GIVES IT EXTENSIVE FAVORABLE COVERAGE. IN WORKING GROUP U.S. RESERVED ON REFERENCES IN DRAFT REPORT TO LINKAGE OF POPULATION POLICY TO NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER; ALSO CLASHED WITH CUBA OVER LATTER'S ALLEGATIONS OF U.S. USE OF FAMILY PLANNING ASSISTANCE, BOTH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE TO INTERVENE IN LATIN AMERICA DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. END SUMMARY.

1. TUESDAY PLENARY SESSIONS DEVOTED TO STATEMENTS BY COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. SPEAKING WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF CANADA, CUBA, HAITI, UNITED STATES, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, ECUADOR, ARGENTINA, VENEZUELA, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION, INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION ON EUROPEAN MIGRATION, PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION, AND UNESCO. SPEECHES BY LATIN DELEGATES HAVE BEEN MILD AND NON-CONTROVERSIAL. CONSTANT THEME IS INTERRELATIONSHIP OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POPULATION GROWTH, BUT STRESS IS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FIRST WITH POPULATION GROWTH, BUT STRESS IS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FIRST WITH POPULATION POLICY AND PROGRAMS TO FOLLOW. MANY SPEECHES MENTIONED CERDS AND NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

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AS WAY OF ACHIEVING DESIRED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MORE EQUIT-

ABLE RE-DISTRIBUTION OF WORLD'S RESOURCES. INTERNAL MIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION ALSO COMMON FEATURE.

2. VENEZUELA MADE STRONGEST STATEMENT ON NECESSITY FOR A POPULATION POLICY WHICH INCLUDES PLANS FOR BRINGING FAMILY PLANNING INFORMATION AND SERVICES TO COUPLES ON VOLUNTARY BASIS. IT WAS ONE OF FEW COUNTRIES TO REALLY TALK ABOUT FAMILY PLANNING AS IMPORTANT ACTIVITY IN WHICH GOVERNMENT HAS HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY. CUBA, AFTER DEFINING DEMOGRAPHIC EXPLOSION AS PRODUCT OF IMPERIALISM AND ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION, AND REJECTING "DEMOGRAPHIC TERRORISM" AS PUSHED BY CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, DESCRIBED PRESENT HEALTH PROGRAMS WHICH INCLUDE FAMILY PLANNING. CUBA HAS INSTITUTED SYSTEM OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO REDUCE INTERNAL MIGRATION; HAS REDUCED DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RURAL AND URBAN MORTALITY TO LESS THAN 20 PERCENT, VERSUS 50 PERCENT OR MORE IN MOST LDC'S; FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMS STRESS IUD AND ABORTION, WITH PILLS.

3. AMBASSADOR'S SPEECH EMPHASIZED U.S. CONCURRENCE WITH OFT-EXPRESSED IDEA OF MANY SPEAKERS THAT POPULATION POLICY AND PROGRAMS SHOULD BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS. HE POINTED OUT THAT ONLY SMALL PORTION OF U.S. ASSISTANCE DEVOTED TO POPULATION PROGRAMS, AND THAT U.S. PREPARED TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES REQUESTING IT. HE EXPRESSED U.S. SUPPORT FOR BUCHAREST WPPA AS STARTING POINT FOR DISCUSSIONS AT THIS CONFERENCE AND CALLED FOR ACTION IN ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES. MANY DELEGATES SUBSEQUENTLY EXPRESSED INFORMALLY TO MEMBERS USDEL APPRECIATION FOR AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS AS A SENSIBLE BREATH OF FRESH AIR IN A STALE PLENARY SESSION.

4. WORKING GROUP (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE) BEGAN MARCH 4 REVIEW OF CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS L.4 (IMPLICATIONS FOR LATIN AMERICA OF THE WORLD ACTION PLAN) AND L.5 (LATIN AMERICA: DEMOGRAPHIC SITUATION AROUND 1973 AND PROSPECTS FOR THE YEAR 2000). GROUP ALSO CONSIDERING L.8 (REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE PANEL CONVENED BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF ECLA), A COMPLEMENTARY PAPER TO L.4 AND L.4 PREPARED BY CHILE, MEXICO, ARGENTINA, JAMAICA AND CUBA. LATTER PAPER HAS CAUSED SOME PROBLEMS AND FOR A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING U.S.

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5. USDEL CONCURRED GENERALLY WITH L.4 AND L.5 BUT HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT ASPECTS OF L.8, ESPECIALLY THAT PART OF PARA 10 WHICH STATED "A POPULATION POLICY MAY HAVE A CERTAIN SUCCESS IF IT CONSTITUTES AN INTEGRAL PART OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT" (WPPA, PARA 1) AND THAT, IN ITS TURN, THIS "DEVELOPMENT IS DIRECTLY LINKED TO THE TRANSFORMATION OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER" (RESOLUTION XVII OF THE WPC)". FOLLOWING GENERAL DEPARTMENT

GUIDANCE ON OUR CONCERN OVER LINKING WPPA TO NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, USDEL DID NOT CONCUR WITH THIS PORTION OF PARA 10.

6. MOST LA COUNTRIES HAVE ACCEPTED L.4 AND L.5 AS SUPPLEMENTED BY L.8. ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, EL SALVADOR, ECUADOR, CUBA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, MEXICO, PARAGUAY MOST ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS. ARGENTINA, IN PARTICULAR, HAS URGED ECLA CONSULTATION GO BEYOND BUCHAREST IN ITS RECOMMENDATIONS AND NOT BE STERILE REHASH OF WPC DEBATES.

7. US AND CUBA CLASHED OVER PARA 25 OF PANEL'S REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, WHICH READS IN DRAFT: "THE PANEL REVIEWED THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN MATTERS CONNECTED WITH THE FORMULATION, IMPLEMENTATION, AND EVALUATION OF POPULATION POLICIES; IT CONSIDERED IT ADVISABLE TO UNDERScore THE ADVANTAGE OF MULTILATERAL OVER BILATERAL SYSTEMS WHEN THE LATTER INVOLVE PRIVATE COOPERATION AGENCIES, AND THOUGHT IT DESIRABLE TO CREATE OR STRENGTHEN REGIONAL REGIONAL INSTRUMENTS FOR PROMOTING AND ASSISTING IN THE PRIORITY UTILIZATION OF MULTILATERAL SYSTEMS. USDEL (NELSON) CONSIDERED RECOMMENDATION A DEROGATION OF COUNTRY'S SOVEREIGNTY TO CHOOSE OWN FORM OF ASSISTANCE, AND MADE STRONG STATEMENT AGAINST. OUR POSITON WAS SUPPORTED BY COSTA RICA, EL SALVADOR, MEXICO IN PART, AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. CUBA IN POLEMICAL ATTACK AGAINST IMPERIALIST ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING POPULATION REFERENCE BUREAU, WITH HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH, LAMBASTED DIRECT U.S. ASSISTANCE. IT ATTACKED U.S. ON STERILIZATION OF PUERTO RICAN WOMEN AND IN GENERAL FOLLOWED LINE IT TOOK AT SAN JOSE ECLA PREPARATORY. USDEL (NELSON AND RAVENHOLT) FORCEFULLY RESPONDED TO CUBA'S FALSE ALLEGATION AND CRITICISM. RESULT: CHAIRMAN NAMED DRAFTING COMMITTEE TO REWORK PARA 25.

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